

SPORT

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WEALDSTONE boss saw side behind four times Bartlett 'frustrated' at two opening draws

'FRUSTRATION' was the word on Wealdstone manager Gordon Bartlett's lips after 2-2 draws against Dartford and St Albans opened their National League South campaign.

Bartlett's side fell behind four times in their opening two games – but on each occasion pulled level to salvage an unbeaten start to the campaign.

A local derby against the Saints, their first game at Grosvenor Vale this season, should perhaps have brought their first victory, as despite them going behind twice only Tom Cadmore's late miss denied them the win after goals from Elliot Benyon and Ricky Wellard had restored parity.

St Albans earlier took the lead through Junior Morias following a goalkeeping error, and again five minutes after half-time from Louie Theophanous' powerful strike.

"I've come away frustrated," said Bartlett. "I think we've done enough to get six points across the two games."

"The disappointment is the manner of the goals. They've mostly come from individual errors, and we can get that sorted."

By Ron Walker

"Anyone is going to be happy to get a point at Dartford, and against St Albans had we taken our opportunities we would have won."

Benyon opened his Wealdstone account in their curtain-raiser with Dartford on Saturday, as Eddie Oshodi's last-minute equaliser rescued them a last-minute point in Kent.

The 28-year-old frontman, who was a regular scorer for Torquay in League Two earlier in his career, clearly impressed his new boss, who revealed he had been chasing his signature for some time.

He said: "He's got a lot of praise and I'm not surprised. I watched him last season and he was the one I wanted; he's paying back my confidence already."

One major disappointment for the Stones was the loss of captain Wes Parker on Monday night, with David Hunt also sidelined, and both set for a significant spell on the sidelines.

Bartlett said: "Losing your captain is never good news and it will certainly make me think, as they're long-term injuries."



Wealdstone drew 2-2 with local rivals St Albans on Monday, with Elliot Benyon and Ricky Wellard on target. PICTURE: ALAN PALMER

Canoeing duo in semi-final

HOUNSLOW PROGRESSES IN OLYMPICS COMPETITION

HARROW's Richard Hounslow and canoe partner David Florence have made it through to the Olympic slalom double semi-finals in Brazil.

The pair finished with the third best time from their single run at the Whitewater Stadium, and were so content with their initial 103.27-second effort that they sat out the second round of qualifiers.

Hounslow said they decided against taking on a second run to avoid "putting pressure" on themselves.

He said: "It was good to get into race mode after watching the competition yesterday. It is always great to get the first run under your belt to wash away the nerves."

"London 2012 was my first Olympics and I was certainly more terrified sitting on the start line there than I was today so I think that is a good sign of our experience."

"We had a safe plan today that was very conservative but it worked well. We could have gone out there and tried to win qualification but we didn't need to."

"Some of the other guys tried to do that and they have made mistakes and now they have put pressure on themselves to deliver in the second run which we don't have to so that it how it goes if you get things wrong."

Defending an Olympic silver medal from London 2012, they will now compete in the semi-finals today.

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